

## **Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind**

Meeting Notes

August 13, 2008

### **What is the CBGDB's competitive edge?**

- Number of constituents
- Collective voice of Board
- Consumer Involvement
- Amount of authority from law and stakeholders – only state that licenses guide dogs.
- Common goal/passion

### **What is the CBGDB doing now that it wasn't doing five years ago?**

- Legally defensible exams
- Great, in-depth relationships with all stakeholder national/international
- Acting as facilitation in guide dog service animal community.
- Prompting guide dog and users via speaking engagements
- Tracking related proposals through U.S. Legislature.
- We are highly regarded for all or our elements/every-thing we do-regarded as the best.
- Model for other states, Co's.-- the benchmark

### **What does success look like for the CBGDB?**

- We have an enforcement budget.
- Common goal with stakeholder to educate public.
- Board is a repository of all things service dog & known for it.
- Permanent status
- Remain focused on the needs for the blind (the guide dog industry)
- Board made up of knowledgeable members with a mutually respectful relationship with stakeholders.
- Board regards and respects schools/licensees as subject matter experts.
- Systems & methods that prevent adverse relationships with stakeholders/promote cohesiveness.

### **Who do you have collaborations with that you didn't have with before?**

- Other states now have guide dog boards
- Serving double the number of guide dog users
- Bona fide representatives from other portions of the guide dog industry.
- Public & business better educated about guide dogs.

### **What does the CBGDB have now that it didn't have five years ago?**

- Money
- Twice the number of members
- Diversity on Board
- Board Staff-multifaceted
- Updated statute and regulations
- Consistent stakeholder treatment.

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### Vision #1

A permanent organization that optimizes the relationship between all members of the guide dog community through objective standards, strong enforcement and mutual respect.

### **Vision #2**

**As a result of our efforts, guide dog users are well-informed and are guaranteed that service providers are competent & ethical. The Board is a recognized leader in promoting standards of practice, advocating on behalf of consumers & collaborating with stakeholders.**

### Vision #3

We are able to provide a guide dog to every eligible visually-impaired consumer.